QUIZ — HISTORY

Select the answer that best answers the question or completes the statement.

1. Social Security payroll taxes help pay for the following benefits:
A. SSI, survivors, retirement, veterans
B. Retirement, survivors, disability, Medicare
C. Unemployment, retirement, burial fees
D. Worker's compensation, SSI, recreation fees

2. Before the federal government accepted responsibility for programs to provide for the financial security of American citizens, such matters were handled by the following:
A. Foreign interests
B. Military
C. States and private charities
D. Banks

3. The following best describes the conditions that existed during the Great Depression that prompted the Social Security Act.
A. Widespread unemployment
B. Businesses went bankrupt, banks failed
C. The elderly, widows, and orphans suffered the most
D. All of the above

4. The lesson that we learned from the Great Depression is best described as:
A. That, in an industrial economy, the worker has less control over his/her financial security and government has to play a role.
B. That charity begins at home.
C. That states don't care enough to do the job.
D. That most workers can take care of their own families.

5. Disability benefits were added to the Social Security Act:
A. To help workers who had to "retire prematurely" because of a disability.
B. To make it easier for people to retire early.
C. To help people with short-term health problems.
D. To help widows and children.

6. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) was established to:
   A. Help rich people.
   B. Help people with limited income and resources.
   C. Help immigrants.
   D. Help middle-income people.

7. Benefits were indexed to the cost of living to:
   A. Help benefits resist inflation.
   B. Reduce the cost of the program.
   C. Increase the cost of Social Security.
   D. Pay benefits to more people.

8. Medicare was added to the Social Security program to:
   A. Help elderly (and later disabled) beneficiaries with their medical bills.
   B. Help poor people with their medical bills.
   C. Keep rich people from getting poor.
   D. Help everybody.

9. The survivors insurance program under Social Security was designed to:
   A. Help widows and orphans.
   B. Help friends of the worker.
   C. Provide burial funds for poor people.
   D. Give people more money.

10. The best description of the purpose of the Social Security program is as follows:
   A. Social Security is the nation's primary means of providing a continuing income to families when the breadwinner retires, dies, or becomes disabled.
   B. Social Security is the best way to maintain strong economic conditions.
   C. Social Security is how we help poor people.
   D. Social Security is for old people.